Application No. 10/773393 Amendment dated December 7, 2006 Reply to Office action of November 22, 2006

REMARKS

By this Amendment, no claims have been amended, no claims have been canceled, and no new claims have been added to the application. Accordingly, claims 1-23 are pending in the application. No new matter has been added.

In the prior Office Action, the Examiner determined that the application contained claims directed to four patentably distinct species of the invention, and issued a requirement that applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits. In response, applicant hereby elects species III (Figs. 9-11), without traverse. Claim 22 clearly reads on the elected species. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 21, from which claim 22 depends, is a generic claim.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 18-0160. Order No. EPT-15067.

Respectfully submitted,

RANKIN, HILL, PORTER & CLARK LLP

By: /Randolph E. Digges, III/ Randolph E. Digges, III Reg. No. 40590

700 Huntington Building 925 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1405 TEL: (216) 566-9700 FAX: (216) 566-9711 docketing@rankinhill.com